

IIAPM FUNDING WINDOW

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT IIAPM IIAPM Grant Proposal's – Eligibility CRITERIA

June 1, 2015

Heritage – Identification, Inventory, Acquisition, Protection, and Management (IIAPM) grants are for projects that preserve and enhance Arizona's natural biological diversity. The sensitive elements (e.g. species and habitats) for which IIAPM grant proposals may be submitted are listed in this document. Projects must align with at least one of these objectives to be considered for grant funding.

The intent is to fund **IIAPM** projects that give the greatest return for the Heritage funds invested consistent with the eligibility criteria listed below. For **2016** there is a total of **\$200,000** available to support **IIAPM** grant proposals. Grant applicants can request from **\$500** to **\$200,000** within this sub-category.

Grant proposals that do not meet **one or more** of the **Eligibility CRITERIA** listed below **will be rejected**.

CRITERION 1. These projects focus on species the Department manages, or which the Department needs additional information to allow for active management, including “traditional” recovery activities necessary to achieve down- or de-listing, and practical solutions to threats; species for which:

- 1) additional information is required to inform a listing decision, or;
- 2) significant threats might be reduced, or;

3) conservation agreements or other conservation tools might be developed to preclude the need to list, and/or provide assurances to the Department and/or non-federal landowners if the species is listed in the future; species that require actions or information to meet the needs identified in the 2012 Arizona State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) “to keep the common species common.” These include:

- Federally listed species
- Candidate species identified in the Multi-District Litigation settlements (= MDL species)
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) Tier 1A and 1B.
- Listed or candidate species identified in the Department's Sport Fish Stocking Conservation and Mitigation Program (CAMP)

CRITERION 2. These projects address any other SGCN information needs.

Please contact the Department's IIAPM Wildlife Management Project Leader or Assistant Project Leaders at (623-236-7500) regarding any questions about elements or priorities eligible this year.

Note: The list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that are referenced in this document are also available from the Department's Nongame Wildlife Branch (5000 W Carefree Highway, Phoenix, Arizona 85086; phone 623-236-7507; fax 623-236-7926) or by download from the Department's website http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/swap.shtml.

CRITERION 1 Projects.

- a. In coordination with the Department's species lead, determine presence of non-native fishes and assess meso- and micro-habitat in streams that have been identified as potential locations for repatriation of spikedace and loach minnow.

- b. Conserve desert pupfish populations in northern Mexico to help recover the species across its entire range and to facilitate the translocation of pupfish to exchange genetic material among wild and captive populations in both Arizona and Sonora.
- c. For spiketail and loach minnow, compare genetics of captive broodstock and F1 generation fish at the Department's Aquatic Research and Conservation Center with wild source populations to ensure refuge and produced fish are representative of wild populations.
- d. Investigate demography and life history variation in Sonoran tiger salamanders to inform recovery actions.
- e. Design and implement field or laboratory studies to more effectively design conservation and wildlife management actions targeting native ranid frogs.
- f. To assist the Department in designing effective Sonoran desert tortoise conservation and wildlife management actions, conduct studies to investigate tortoise demography or threats..
- g. Design and implement experiments to evaluate the effects of conservation and wildlife management actions on northern Mexican and narrow-headed gartersnakes.
- h. Investigate options to increase Mt. Graham red squirrel habitat on Mt. Graham.
- i. Conduct field surveys and literature searches to determine historical and present occurrence, population status and trends, and management needs of SGCN mollusks: Huachuca woodlandsnail, Grand Wash springsnail, Kingman springsnail, or Verde Rim springsnail.
- j. Conduct field studies to evaluate the efficacy of various translocation techniques used for SGCN species frequently relocated due to development activities (e.g., burrowing owls, Gunnison's prairie dogs, desert tortoises).

CRITERION 2 Projects.

- a. Through field surveys identify distribution, habitat requirements, and current population status of any SGCN.
- b. Connectivity
 - 1) Public information activities, materials, and/or plans on open space planning and its benefits to wildlife in suburban/rural development areas, statewide.
 - 2) Research and development of criteria for habitat enhancement in grasslands ecosystems, with particular emphasis on grasslands restoration in juniper invasion areas and development of measurement parameter guidelines and locally valid prescriptions for wildlife management.
 - 3) Research on the impacts to wildlife in Arizona due to renewable energy development
 - 4) Research methods to effectively restore connectivity of fragmented habitat (vegetative or human caused).
 - 5) Identify through modeling and then ground truth, existing and historic wildlife movement corridors in central and southeastern Arizona.

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